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Bills creating stiffer penalties for forging state IDs headed to governor

LANSING – Legislation introduced in the Senate and passed by the House of Representatives that would make individuals who forge state ID cards subject to the same penalties as those who forge drivers' licenses is headed for the governor's desk, said Sen. Alan Sanborn, R-Richmond Township.

“At a time when the nation is on the lookout for individuals who are committing acts of terrorism and the rates of identity theft are increasing, I believe this legislation is very important to Michigan residents,” Sanborn said. “I hope the governor signs these bills into law to protect residents from criminals forging identification cards.”

Under current law, penalties for forging, selling or possessing a forged drivers' license for purposes of committing a serious felony currently are more severe than those for forged official state ID cards. Senate Bill 912, sponsored by Sanborn, and SB 913 increase the penalties for forged state ID cards to match the penalties for forged drivers' licenses and eliminate inconsistencies between these nearly identical crimes.

The bills were passed unanimously by both chambers of the Legislature.

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